

INTIMATIONS

NOW READY

THE CHINA DIRECTORY
CHINA, JAPAN, STRAITS, &c., &c.
1896.
With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.
This is the
THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL ISSUE,
and will be found, as usual, to show an advance
on preceding years both in interest and economy
of information.
The DIRECTORY covers the whole of the
ports and cities of the Far East, from Peking to
Vladivostok, in which European roads.
A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.



CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS OF AERATED
WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER FACTORY is fitted
with the best English Machinery, embodying
the latest improvements in the trade.

The Purest Ingredients only are used, and
the utmost care and cleanliness exercised in
the Manufacture throughout.

The Water used is proved by repeated
Analyses to be Absolutely Pure.

For COAST PORTS, Waters are packed and
placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and
the full amount allowed for Packages and
Empty in receipt in good order.

Counterfeit Order-Books supplied on applica-
tion.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is
"DISPENSARY, HONGKONG."
And all signed messages addressed thus will
receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always
kept ready in Stock—

PURE AERATED WATER

SODA WATER

LEMONADE

POTASH WATER

SALT WATER

LITHIA WATER

SARSAPARILLA WATER

TONIC WATER

GINGER ALE

GINGERADE

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty
or greasy, or that appear to have been used
for any other purpose than that of containing
Aerated Waters, as such Bottles are never used
again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 26th May, 1896.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS
ONLY communications relating to the most common
should be addressed to THE EDITOR.
Correspondents must forward their names and addresses
with communications, and that of containing
for publication, but as evidence of good faith.
All letters for publication should be written in one
hand, and not in two or three different hands.
No anonymous or signed communications that have
already appeared in other papers will be inserted.

Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be
sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that
time the supply is limited. Single Copies for Cash.
Telephone Nos. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 30th, 1896.

The Kwangtung Mint is very far from
being a blessing to this Colony. The sub-
sidy mint with which it floods Hongkong
is not a boon. The tokens are not good
silver and their intrinsic value is low; but it
pays the Chinese money dealers to put
them into general circulation because they
purchase them at a discount and get them
into circulation at par. We have allowed
these inferior coins to come freely into the
Colony and in a measure supersede the
British token money, which is much better
value. The latter only is accepted at the
Government Offices and the Banks; but
everywhere else the Cantonese tokens are in
current use, and vast quantities of them are
made up into rolls of five and ten dollars'
worth, in which form they are used to pay
bills, and in this way they are an im-
mense nuisance. Yet the Government, in
though these coins are a source of consid-
erable annoyance, and incidentally of much
loss, do not, for some reason, see their way
to legislate against their circulation in the
Colony. They do not like to do so pre-
sumably because the Hongkong token money
is still largely used on the opposite main-
land, and if restrictive measures were
adopted in this Colony against the Can-
tonese tokens it might lead to retaliatory
steps being adopted by the Viceroy. How-
ever that may be the fact remains that
the Cantonese subsidiary coins have become
one of the small ills of life to the
people of Hongkong. At the same time
they are no doubt a great convenience to the
people of the Two Kwang, where previously
the cumbersome copper cash was the only
medium of exchange in small transactions.

This fact is being realised in other
provinces than Kwangtung. The Fukien
Government have had a large quantity of
silver coins minted for them at Canton, and
His Excellency Cuiwu CHENG has
established a mint at Wuchang for the bene-
fit of the Hu-kwang provinces. Another
mint is to be established, very shortly at
Nanking, from which several more of the
Central provinces will be supplied with a
silver coinage. On the 17th April last a
memorial from the Viceroy of Chili ap-
peared in the Peking Gazette on the subject
of coining silver dollars at Tientsin, the
fact has since been recalled to the plant
order from England. So favourably im-
pressed are the Central Government with
the idea of establishing mints for the issue
of silver coins and thus relieving the strin-
gent state of the copper cash market that
they have given instructions to the Viceroy

and Governments of the different provinces
urging them to adopt this means of increas-
ing the revenue. It is not the convenience
of the people that is chiefly sought, but the
profit on the mining of the subsidiary
coins. This source of income was first
recognised by CHANG CHENG-KUO, and he
deserves the credit of the discovery, for
he did not fear to make the first experi-
ment, by establishing the placer Mint in
China at Canton. Of course he was not
without pretty safe ground to calculate upon.
He knew that there was a good profit on
the manufacture, for he was well aware
that the Hongkong Government made a
considerable revenue out of them from
England. He knew also that the coins
would be welcomed, for Hongkong had
again demonstrated that fact; but he had
the ingrained mistrust of all official under-
takings felt by the populace to reckon with,
the chance that they would hesitate to
accept the production of a native Mint.
CHANG took the risk, however, and his
reward was substantial. The Mint has
flourished ever since, and seems likely to
continue to do so, unless it falls into native
management some day, and the silver
becomes so debased as to be valueless. As
it is the interest of the Government to
maintain it at its present standard by no
means unduly high—the chance is that the
coinage will go on increasing.

It is curious to note that up to the
present date there are still, as a Shanghai
contemporary points out, a number of
important provinces wherein the silver
dollar and the subsidiary coins are quite
unknown. Neither Hunan nor Shensi use
the dollar or know the familiar ten and
twenty cent pieces; nor are they in cir-
culation in Yunnan, Kweichow, Szechuen, and
Kansuh. A supply is shortly to be sent
from the Hupih Mint at Wuchang to
Chungking, where they will no doubt at
first be received rather doubtfully, but
when their convenience, as contrasted with
the shoes of oxen, the copper cash, and
other devices of exchange, is recognised
they will not fail to prove as popular as
they have in other portions of the Central
Kingdom. It is rather singular, however,
that the Central Government should have
missed the opportunity afforded to further
consolidate its influence and power by
founding an Imperial Mint, the coins
struck at which would serve for the whole
of the great empire, and thus have estab-
lished a national currency. The estab-
lishment of all these provincial Mints
seems to tend in the direction of in-
creasing the autonomy of the provinces
rather than to tighten the hold over them
of the Peking Government. The reason
for this mistake—if mistake it be—in policy
is not far to seek. The Peking Govern-
ment have always been sluggish to a degree;
they had not the energy to originate; and
now that two or three provincial Mints have
been started they do not care to disturb
the arrangement, as it might provoke dis-
content. An opportunity has therefore
been lost to the Chinese Imperial Govern-
ment to put the coinage of the Empire on a
sound basis like that of Japan, and the pro-
vince will now make the profit, and prob-
ably not make the dollar. The minting
of dollars does not pay, hence the supply
of silver tokens will be the congenial task
which the new Mints will chiefly devote
their energies.

The steamer Lightning, from Calcutta, left
Singapore for this port on Tuesday afternoon.

The D.D.R. steamer Frigate, from Hamburg,
left Singapore for this port on Tuesday morning.
It is expected here on or about the 3rd August.

The O.S.S. Co. new steamer Proteus, from
Liverpool, left Singapore yesterday, the 29th
inst., and is due here on or about Monday,
the 3rd August.

The C.P. steamer Empress of China arrived
at Kowloon at 7 p.m. on Sunday and left at
8 p.m. for Hongkong via Kolo, Nagasaki, and Shanghai.

The Mutual Steamship Company, from Glasgow,
Liverpool, and Newport, left Singapore for
this port on Tuesday morning. It is expected
here on or about the 3rd August.

A Chinese doctor, attached to the Tung Wah
Hospital, was yesterday fined \$15 for being
drunk in Possession Street for being out
at night without a light or pass.

A fifteen year old boy was yesterday ordered
to receive six strokes with the rattan for steal-
ing a box of soap from the Kowloon and Kan-
ton Bank, and for being drunk and disorderly.
The young man was released on bail.

With the news of the coming of the typhoon,
weather permitting a performance will be given
this evening, with a new programme. A grand
ballet for Mrs. de la Roche is in preparation,
Friday evening under distinguished patronage.

From an Auckland telegram in Australian
papers we learn that at Batavia, on the
afternoon of 17th June, between half-past two
o'clock and half-past three, there was a great
explosion of five minutes, and then receded.
The little harbour was nearly dry. It was on
the 15th June that the great tidal wave oc-
curred at Japan. Possibly the phenomenon at
Batavia may have had some connection
with it.

At nine o'clock yesterday morning about a
hundred gentlemen gathered in the hall of the
club at the house in Bond Street, and after
a sumptuous breakfast, and a quiet game of
chess, the sports were in the most interesting
stage when the police swept down and made
two or three arrests. The miniature got away
soon by making hasty leaps from the
stage. The defendants were taken to the Police
Station and shortly afterwards fined \$3 each by
the Magistrate.

The Sanitary Board meets this afternoon.
The following is the agenda—
(a) The presence of cholera at Penang.
(b) The non-existence of bubonic plague in
Siam.
(c) The taking of a census this year.
(d) Analysts' report on six samples of well water.
(e) Analysts' report for the quarter ended the 30th
June, 1896.
(f) Correspondence relating to the conduct-
ing of a medical person to the Tung Wah Hospi-
tal.
(g) Papers concerning the licensing of shops to sell
ice cream and other refreshments.
(h) The immediate vicinity of the Wanchai market.
(i) Papers having reference to the re-opening of the
house in Hong Yuen Street, East and West, and
Nos. 12 to 24, Tenham Street and 11 to 19, Wing
Lok Street in combination.
(j) Papers concerning an advertisement which ap-
peared in the Chinese Press of the 23rd June inst.
(k) Correspondence having reference to certain dwell-
ings pronounced to be uninhabitable.
(l) Correspondence concerning certain alterations
which are being made to backyards at 15, Aberdeen
Street and 23, Robinson Street.
(m) An application for a license to keep a dog.
(n) Monthly returns for the week ended the 18th
and 22nd July, 1896, respectively.

THE "TITIS" LOST IN A
TYPHOON

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE

SHANGHAI, 29th July.
The German gunboat Titis was totally
wrecked in a typhoon on Thursday last on
Klat Hoey Point, Sangkai Bay (on the eastern
coast of the Shanghai Promontory).
Seventy-seven men and all the officers were
lost, including Commander Bruhn, Lieutenant
Hildebrand, Fraustadt, and Press, and Dr.
Hildebrand. There was no Paymaster on board.
Ten men were saved.
[The Titis has been on this station since 1897.
She was a gunboat of 480 tons displacement,
180 ft. 3 in. long, and 25 ft. 1 in. beam. She
was launched in 1872.]

ANOTHER FOREIGN
DIFFICULTY

THE SHANGHAI BUND FORESHORE
IN JEOPARDY.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
SHANGHAI, 29th July.
The Tootal proposes to sell the Shanghai
Bund foreshore.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
LONDON, 29th July.
THE UGANDA RAILWAY BILL.
The Uganda Railway Bill has passed its
second reading in the House of Commons.
LOSS OF THE "DRUMMOND
CASTLE"—FINDING OF
THE COURT.

The Court of Enquiry into the loss of the
Drummond Castle finds that the disaster was
caused by excessive speed and an inadequate
allowance for the current. It considers that
had the captain used the lead sufficiently the
disaster might have been averted.

TURKEY AND GREECE.
Complications between Greece and Turkey
are feared.

JAPAN TIDAL WAVE RELIEF FUND.

Subscriptions already acknowledged \$3,932.
G. W. F. P. 20
M. Thompson 25
C. Duncan 10
Huyling Telegraph 5
Total \$4,088

THE TYPHOON.

On Tuesday afternoon the Observatory gave
warning of an approaching typhoon, the red
disc signifying a typhoon to the eastward and
a distance of 200 miles. Three hundred miles
being estimated. At 8.45 a.m. yesterday the
barometer began to fall, indicating that the dis-
turbance had approached within the three hun-
dred mile limit, and at 9.55 the gale was
one and a half degrees higher than the normal
height. At 10.30 a.m. the black north cone
was visible and at that time the centre of the
typhoon was, according to the Observatory
notice, about 250 miles to the S.W. of the
colony, moving towards the W.N.W. The
steamer in harbour began at an early hour to
seek places of safety in Kowloon Bay and behind
Stevedores and by midday the harbour was
almost deserted. The wind rose gradually
increased and at four o'clock the Kowloon ferry
began to run, leaving several Kowloon fer-
ries on this side, a very uncomfortable position
for many men, who were then rendered unable
to look after the safety of their households. By
five o'clock the wind was approaching typhoon
force and at eight minutes past six two rounds
were fired by the Observatory gun, the signal
that the storm was expected to pass over the
colony. Early in the afternoon the dressing
rooms of the Victoria Recreation Club were
blown away and the building itself was
blown to bits. The bath itself to be seen. About
two o'clock four cargo boats engaged on the
East China Sea were wrecked on the wall, but
fortunately without loss of life. It is reported
also that while a cargo boat was being
towed by a launch to Kowloon about two
o'clock the captain, but all on board are said
to have been rescued by the launch. Communi-
cation with the Observatory was interrupted early
in the afternoon, the land line connecting with
the cable being broken. At night the streets
were left in darkness, the electric light not
working. Telephonic communication was also
to a large extent interrupted by the
breaking of the lines. Messrs. Falcoer and
Co.'s barometer read 29.50 at 9 a.m., 29.42 at
1 p.m., and 29.28 at 4 p.m. The storm seemed
to reach its maximum between half-past ten
and eleven, when the wind, which had worked
round the south-east, was blowing furiously.
About that time, however, the barometer
began to rise a little. At ten o'clock the
reading was 29.20, but by twelve o'clock it had
risen to 29.25. It is to be feared that there
will be a long tale of damage this morning, but
of what took place after dark we are at present
unable to give any detailed account.

Great anxiety is felt concerning the light-
house at Gun Rock. They report that at
three o'clock that the lighthouse had fallen to
29 and that the rock was then washed and at
four o'clock another message was received
giving the reading as 28.9.

M.S. Grafton, Admiral Orley's flagship,
was under orders to leave for Japan yesterday
and in the course of the morning she steamed
out, but presumably it was with the intention
of being shelled in Junk Bay or other safe
anchorage, and not with that of proceeding on
her voyage in face of the threatening state of
the weather.

THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAM-
BER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the Committee
held at the Chamber Room on the 25th July,
President Mr. Messrs. A. Macdonald (Chairman),
H. Smith (Vice-Chairman), J. D. Irving,
C. D. D. D., B. O. Macdonald, W. A. S. S. S.,
T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).
The minutes of the last monthly meeting
were read and confirmed.

Read letter from Acting Manager in China
of E. E. A. C. Telegraph Co., dated 26th
June in reply to Chamber's letter of date
26th June regarding the cable line in the
vicinity of Hongkong and the Straits Settlements
and elsewhere.

Read letter from Chamber of Commerce, dated
26th July, replying to Chamber's letter of 26th
June, stating that the question of the provision
of a new Post Office is under the consideration
of the Secretary of State, and that the Govern-
ment are thinking of arranging for temporary
additional accommodation for Postal Depart-
ment.

The Chairman said he understood it was
proposed to take in the new Supreme Court
building occupied by the Attorney-General and
Crown Solicitor and connect them with the
Post Office. He said he thought it was a good
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This opinion was generally endorsed.

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QUARANTINE AT HONGKONG.

Letter from Colonial Secretary forwarding
copy of letter from British Consul, Hongkong,
dated 26th July, regarding the cable line in the
vicinity of Hongkong and the Straits Settlements
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26th July, replying to Chamber's letter of 26th
June, stating that the question of the provision
of a new Post Office is under the consideration
of the Secretary of State, and that the Govern-
ment are thinking of arranging for temporary
additional accommodation for Postal Depart-
ment.

The Chairman said he understood it was
proposed to take in the new Supreme Court
building occupied by the Attorney-General and
Crown Solicitor and connect them with the
Post Office. He said he thought it was a good
idea, and he thought it was a good idea, and
an increase in the staff was also imperative.
This opinion was generally endorsed.

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